

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 10, 29 and 30, the independent claims being Claims 1, 10, 29 and 30. Claims 11 to 28 have been cancelled. Claims 29 and 30 have been amended.

In the Official Action dated January 16, 2003, Claims 1, 7 to 10, 16 and 23 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,929,904 (Uchida), and Claims 2 to 6 and 18 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Uchida '904 patent, in view of Official Notice. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, and solely to advance prosecution of the application to issue, Claims 16 to 28 have been canceled (Claims 11 to 15 previously were canceled), and 29 and 30 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel optical device, optical device driving unit, information write device, preset information setting system, and camera system. In one aspect, as recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to a preset information setting system comprising an optical device and an information write device set outside the optical device and connected to the optical device. The optical

device includes an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing preset information which is written by the information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the preset information stored in the storage means.

In another aspect, as recited in independent Claim 10, the present invention relates to a preset information setting system comprising an optical device and an information write device set outside the optical device and connected to the optical device. The optical device includes an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing first preset information which is written by the information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, storage operation setting means operated to store second preset information into the storage means, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means selects one of the first preset information and the second preset information stored in the storage means, and performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the selected first preset information or second preset information.

In another aspect, as now recited in independent Claim 29, the present invention relates to an optical device comprising an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing preset information which is written by an external information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means performs preset

drive control of the drive means on the basis of the preset information stored in the storage means.

In yet another aspect, the present invention relates to an optical device comprising an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing first preset information which is written by an external information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, operation setting means for setting second preset information that relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means. The control means selects one of first preset information which is stored in the storage means and the second preset information which is set by the operation setting means, and performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the selected first preset information or second preset information.

Thus, in each aspect, the present invention relates to the feature of an optical device comprising storage means for storing preset information which is written by an information write device and relates to driving of the optical member. With respect to independent Claims 29 and 30, it will be appreciated that the optical device of the present invention has a preset function and, therefore, the optical device has storage means for storing preset information therein. The storage means also is used for storing preset information which is written by an information write device. Thus, the system avoids complicated structure and production costs which result from providing storage means outside and independent from the optical device.

Applicants submit that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicants submit that there are differences between the subject matter sought

to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Uchida '904 patent relates to control of camera sensing direction in a viewable range defined by camera panning and tilting, and discloses in Figure 2 a structure including "storage means" (memory 33) and an "information write device" (unit 32). However, Applicants submit that the Uchida '904 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. Rather, in the Uchida '904 patent, the memory 33 is arranged outside/external to the "optical device" (video camera 20); the memory 33 is arranged within a system control circuit 30, independent from the video camera 20 (see, Column 2, line 39 to Column 3, line 7). Providing the storage means outside and independent from/external to the optical device, as disclosed in the Uchida '904 patent, complicates the system and increases production costs. Also, since the memory 33 is provided within the system control circuit 30, independent from the video camera 20, if the video camera 20 is operated, the system control circuit is always connected to the video camera 20 and is always turned on; this arrangement makes the system complicated and the power consumption large. Further, in the Uchida '904 system, if preset information is required to be stored in memory 33, the preset function must be controlled by the system control 30, outside the video camera 20; this arrangement makes the external system independent from the video camera 20 complicated, and increases production costs.

Applicants note the Examiner's acknowledgment of "well known parameters associated with zooming of cameras" ("Official Notice"). However, without

conceding the propriety of the Examiner's characterizations. Applicants submit that such Official Notice fails to remedy the above-discussed deficiencies of the Uchida '904 patent.

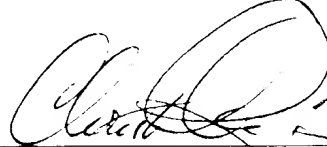
For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 10, 29 and 30 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2 to 9 depend from Claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claim 1, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' attorney, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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